

- 11 -

**WE CLAIM:**

1. A pumpskid for use in installing and removing suction anchors from the seafloor comprising:

a frame;

```

    a pump mounted on the frame and having an inlet
5    and an outlet;

```

a male connector mounted on the frame and adapted for engagement with a suction port on the suction anchor;

latching means for securing the male connector on  
the pumpskid in engagement with the suction port on the  
10 suction anchor and thereby securing the pumpskid to the  
suction anchor;

15        piping means connected in fluid communication  
between the inlet and the outlet of the pump and the male  
connector and including a port open to the surrounding sea;  
and

valve means mounted in the piping means for selective actuation to cause water flow either into the pump from the <sup>surrounding</sup> sea and hence from the pump through the male connector into the suction anchor or outwardly from the suction anchor through the male connector and through the pump and hence into the <sup>surrounding</sup> sea.

a

a

-12-

2. The pumpskid according to Claim 1 further including a hydraulic motor mounted on the frame for driving the pump.

*a*  
3. The pumpskid according to Claim 1 further including <sup>*at least one*</sup> an O-ring extending around the periphery of the male connector for engagement with the suction port to form a water-tight seal.

*a*  
*a*  
*a*  
*a*  
5  
*a*  
4. The pumpskid according to Claim 1 wherein the latching means comprises a plurality of latching <sup>*piston rods*</sup> pins and a plurality of hydraulic actuators each ~~individual to one~~ <sup>*piston rods*</sup> of the latching pins for selective actuation to extend the latching pins into engagement with the suction port thereby securing the male connector in engagement therewith and for <sup>*retractive*</sup> ~~retractment~~ to disengage the male connector from the suction port.

-13-

a

5 The pumpskid according to Claim 1 wherein the piping means includes a first portion extending in fluid communication between the inlet and <sup>the</sup> outlet of the pump and having the port open to the surrounding sea included therein, and a second portion connected in fluid communication between the inlet <sup>and</sup> ~~of~~ the outlet of the pump and having the male connector included therein;

a

10 wherein the valve means include a first valve mounted in the first portion of the piping means for selective actuation to connect the port in fluid communication with the inlet of the pump, a second valve included in the first portion of the piping means for selective actuation to connect the port in fluid communication with the outlet of the pump, a third valve

15 included in the second portion of the piping means for selective actuation to connect the male connector in fluid communication with the inlet of the pump, and a fourth valve included in the second portion of the piping means for selective actuation to connect the male connector in

20 fluid communication with the outlet of the pump; and

further including linkage means for opening the first valve when the second valve is closed, and vice versa, and for opening the third valve when the fourth valve is closed, and vice versa.

0855931-102997

14

-14-

6. A pumpskid for use in installation removing suction anchors from the sea floor comprising:

a frame;

5 a pump mounted on the frame and having an inlet and an outlet;

a hydraulic motor mounted on the frame for driving the pump;

10 a male connector mounted on the frame and adapted for engagement with a suction port on the suction anchor;

an O-ring extending around the periphery of the male connector for engagement with the suction port to effect a water-tight seal therebetween;

a plurality of latching pins slidably mounted on the frame;

15 a plurality of hydraulic actuators mounted on the frame for selectively actuating the latching pins to engage the suction ~~port~~ <sup>anchor</sup> on the suction ~~port~~ <sup>anchor</sup> thereby securing the pumpskid skid in engagement with suction anchor and for retracting the latching pins to permit disengagement of the male connector from the suction port on the suction anchor thereby releasing <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ connection between the pumpskid and the suction anchor;

20

25 piping means including a first portion connected in fluid communication between the inlet and the outlet of the pump and including a port open to the surrounding sea and

-15-

a  
a second portion connected in fluid communication between the inlet and the outlet of the pump and extending to and *having the male connector included therein*  
~~from the male connection;~~

30 valve means including a first valve included in the first portion of the piping means for selective actuation to connect the port in fluid communication with the inlet of the pump, a second valve included in the first portion of the piping means for selective actuation to connect the port in fluid communication with the outlet of the pump, a  
35 third valve included in the second portion of the piping means for selective actuation to connect the male connector in fluid communication with *the* inlet of the pump, and a fourth valve included in the second portion of the piping means for selective actuation to connect the male connector in  
40 fluid communication with the inlet of the pump; and

2  
linkage means connected between the first valve and the second valve and between the third valve and the fourth valve for opening the first valve when *the* second valve is closed and vice versa, and for opening the third valve when  
45 the fourth valve is closed and vice versa.

16